

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A metal halide lamp comprising a discharge vessel surrounded by an outer envelope with clearance and having a ceramic wall which encloses a discharge space filled with a filling consisting of~~comprising~~ an inert gas, such as xenon (Xe), and an ionizable salt, wherein in said discharge space two electrodes are arranged whose tips have a mutual interspacing so as to define a discharge path between them, characterized in that said ionizable salt is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprises~~ NaI, TlI, CaI_2 and X-iodide, wherein X is ~~one or more elements~~ selected from the group consisting of ~~comprising~~ rare earth metals.

2. (Currently Amended) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of ~~one or more elements selected from the group comprising~~ Sc, Y, La, Ce, Pr, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Nd.

3. (Currently Amended) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of ~~one or more elements selected from the group comprising~~ Ce, Pr, Nd.

4. (Previously Presented) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein the molar percentage ratio X-iodide/(NaI + TlI + CaI_2 + X-iodide) lies between 0 and 10%, in particular between 0.5 and 7%, more in particular between 1 and 6%.

5. (Previously Presented) Lamp according to claim 1 wherein the molar percentage ratio $20 \text{ CaI}_2 / (\text{NaI} + \text{TlI} + \text{CaI}_2 + \text{X-iodide})$ lies between 10 and 95%.

6. (Currently Amended) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein the amount of NaI, TlI, CaI_2 and X-iodide lies between 0.001~~0.004~~ and 0.5~~0.5~~ g/cm³, in particular between 0.025~~0.025~~ and 0.3~~0.3~~ g/cm³.

7. (Previously Presented) Lamp according to claim 1, emitting light during stable nominal operation having a color temperature T_c above 3500K, wherein the filling of the discharge space also comprises a halide selected from Mn and In.

8. (Previously Presented) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein the filling comprises Hg.

9. (Previously Presented) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein the lamp has wall load when in stable operation at rated power of at least 30 W/cm².

10. (Previously Presented) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein at least one electrode extends inside the discharge vessel over a length forming a tip to bottom distance (t-b) between the discharge vessel wall and the electrode tip and which the tip to bottom distance (t-b) is at most 4.5mm.

11. (Previously Presented) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein the discharge vessel has a rectangular cross section along the discharge path and wherein the tip to bottom distance (t-b) is at most 3.5mm.

12. (Currently Amended) Lamp according to claim 1, wherein the filling of

the discharge spacevessel is free of Cs.

13. (Currently Amended) The metalMetal halide lamp of claim 1 to be used in a vehicle headlampaccording to claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) Method for manufacturing a vehicle headlamp according to claim 1 said method comprising the steps of:
providing a, ~~wherein the~~ vehicle headlamp is ~~provided~~ with a metal halide lamp comprising a discharge vessel;
surrounding said discharge vessel with ~~surrounded by~~ an outer envelope with clearance and having a ceramic wall which encloses a discharge space;
filling said discharge space ~~filled with~~ a filling consisting of ~~comprising~~ an inert gas, such as xenon (Xe), and an ionizable salt,
arranging wherein-in said discharge space two electrodes are ~~arranged~~ whose tips have a mutual interspacing so as to define a discharge path between them, and
wherein ~~characterized in that~~ said ionizable salt is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprises~~-NaI, TlI, CaI₂ and X-iodide wherein X is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprising~~-rare earth metals.~~minerals~~.